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10/638,794

In the Claims

1-4. (canceled)

5. (currently amended) An electrical outlet comprising:

- a) a receptacle having a face plate, said receptacle being transparent or translucent;
- b) a at least one lighting element positioned embedded within said receptacle so that light from said lighting element when energized is visible through a front face of said receptacle to outside of said receptacle around the periphery of said face plate; [[and]]
- c) means for detecting a level of illumination surrounding said electrical outlet; and
- d) means for illuminating said ~~at least one~~ lighting element upon determining the detected level of illumination is below a predetermined value thereby aiding in locating said electrical outlet in a room illuminated below a predetermined level[[:]] .
- ~~e) a second lighting element positioned around a periphery of said first lighting element, said second lighting element being selectively illuminable;~~
- ~~f) a load sensor for sensing the voltage of a load drawn from an input voltage;~~
- ~~g) means for comparing said sensed load value with a threshold value for determining the capacity of a circuit; and~~
- ~~h) a microprocessor connected to said load comparing means, wherein, upon said load comparing means detecting said load value is less than said threshold value, said microprocessor directs a switch to contact a first lead extending from said first lighting element for illumination thereof and, upon said load comparing means detecting said load value is greater than said threshold value, said microprocessor directs said switch to contact a second lead extending from said second lighting element for illumination thereof.~~

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6. (original) The electrical outlet as recited in claim 5, wherein said means for illuminating said lighting element is a light sensor.

7. (currently amended) The electrical outlet as recited in claim 6, wherein said light element is embedded behind said front face of said receptacle between electrical sockets in said front face ~~further comprising means for comparing said level of light sensed by said light sensor with a threshold value, wherein upon said level of light being below said threshold value, said lighting element is illuminated.~~

8. (currently amended) The electrical outlet as recited in claim 6 ~~[[5]]~~, wherein said light element is embedded in said front face of said receptacle along a perimeter of said receptacle face ~~said face plate is at least one of translucent and transparent for allowing light emitted from said at least one lighting element to pass freely therethrough.~~

9-15. (canceled)

16. (new) An electrical outlet comprising:

a) a receptacle having a face plate, said receptacle being transparent or translucent;

b) a first lighting element producing a first color when energized embedded within said receptacle so that light from said first lighting element when energized is visible through a front face of said receptacle to outside of said receptacle, said first lighting element extending along a periphery of a front face of said receptacle;

c) a second lighting element producing a second color different from said first color when energized embedded within said receptacle so that light from said second lighting element when energized is visible through a front face of said receptacle to outside of said receptacle, said second lighting element extending along the periphery of said front face of said receptacle adjacent said first lighting element;

d) a sensor for sensing electrical load in a circuit in which said receptacle is located;

g) means for comparing a sensed load value with a threshold value; and

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h) a microprocessor connected to said load comparing means, wherein, upon said load comparing means detecting said load value is less than said threshold value, said microprocessor directs a switch to contact a first lead extending from said first lighting element for illumination thereof and, upon said load comparing means detecting said load value is greater than said threshold value, said microprocessor directs said switch to contact a second lead extending from said second lighting element for illumination thereof thereby indicating by color when said threshold value is exceeded.